Finding the Data

Directory Structure

Under the main FTP directory at http://www2.census.gov/acs/summaryfile/ there is a directory for each of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, District of Columbia, the United States (excluding Puerto Rico), and for example SAS programs on how to read the Summary Files into SAS. The directory structures are named in the following fashions.

1. The directories are named by the individual State name (DistrictOfColumbia, PuertoRico, and 0United States as well).
2. A State that has spaces in the name will be compressed to remove the space(s) with the first letter of each word capitalized; Example: DistrictOfColumbia.
3. The SAS Example program directory will be named 0SASExamplePrograms to show the directory at the top of the directory structure through FTP (the SASReadme.txt file will give additional information on the example programs).
4. For the United States directory it will be named 0UnitedStates, the reason for the 0 in front of the name is to bring the name above all the States in the directory structure.

Geography Information

Within each of the data directories, 50 States, Puerto Rico, and US, there will be a geography file named in the following convention.

    <State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>geo.2005-1yr; Alabama as an example algeo.2005-1yr
    For more information on the Summary File Geography file: _____

Zip Files (Compressed Files)

The data is available in the following fashion under the data directories
    <State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>000<Four digit Sequence Number>.2005-1yr.zip
    Alabama as an example for sequence number 0150: al0000150.2005-1yr.zip
    For more information on the data in the Summary files: _____

Please note the sequence numbers go from 0001 to 0150, sequences 0139 through 0148 are specifically for Puerto Rico based tables only.

Also within each data directory there will be an all-encompassing data file that contains all the zip files for that geography in the following fashion.
    all_<State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>.zip; Alabama as an example all_al.zip

The zipped files (compressed files) each contain 3 text files in the following format
Estimate Files - <State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>0000<Four digit Sequence Number>e.2005-1yr
Margin of Error Files -<State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>0000<Four digit Sequence Number>m.2005-1yr
Standard of Error Files -<<State 2-digit alpha FIPS code>0000<Four digit Sequence Number>s.2005-1yr

Using Alabama sequence number 0150 as an Example
Estimate Files - al0000150e.2005-1yr
Margin of Error Files - al0000150m.2005-1yr
Standard of Error Files - al0000150s.2005-1yr